

212903US-3



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11-22-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
OSAMU KAKINUMA : EXAMINER: BOCHNA, D.
SERIAL NO: 09/956,912 :
FILED: September 21, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 3679
FOR: BRANCH PIPE JOINT AND :
METHOD OF CONNECTING
PIPES USING THE PIPE JOINT

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AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated July 17, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-18.

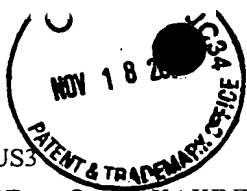
Please add new Claims 19-24.

19. (New) A branch pipe joint for a plurality of refrigerant pipes having different outer diameters of a multi-unit type air conditioner, comprising:

a branch pipe joint body having a hollow closed shape;

a plurality of communication ports provided in said branch pipe joint body, said communication ports having the same inner diameter as each other;

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Docket No. 212903US3
IN RE APPLICATION OF: Osamu KAKINUMA
SERIAL NO: 09/956,912
FILED: September 21, 2001
FOR: BRANCH PIPE JOINT AND METHOD OF CONNECTING PIPES USING THE PIPE JOINT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.
☐ No additional fee is required
☒ Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. §1.9 and §1.27 is claimed.
☒ Additional documents filed herewith: Marked-up Copy
Extension of Time (1 month)
Letter Requesting Approval of Drawing Changes in Red

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The Fee has been calculated as shown below:

CLAIMS	CLAIMS REMAINING		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID	NO. EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	CALCULATIONS
TOTAL	11	MINUS	20	0	x \$18 =	\$0.00
INDEPENDENT	2	MINUS	3	0	x \$84 =	\$0.00
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS			+ \$280 =	\$280.00
		TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS				\$280.00
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduction by 50% for filing by Small Entity				(\$140.00)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Recordation of Assignment			+ \$40 =	\$0.00
		TOTAL				\$140.00

- ☒ A check in the amount of **\$195.00** is attached.
- ☒ Please charge any additional Fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time may be charged to Deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Gregory J. Maier
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Robert T. Pous
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